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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging a number of light-emitting diodes

(LEDs), comprising:

        storing characteristic values of each of said LEDs measured in a characteristic

measurement;

        temporarily keeping said LEDs after storing said characteristic values; and

        rearranging said LEDs to make said characteristic values of adjacent LEDs

substantially equal.

2.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

said adjacent LEDs are arranged so that the characteristic value of one LED is not larger than

that of another LED.

3.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein a

predetermined number of the LEDs are rearranged to make said characteristic values of

adjacent LEDs substantially equal, after said LEDs are measured and temporarily kept.

4.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

said characteristic value comprises a light intensity of said LEDs.

5.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging light-emitting elements, comprising:

        storing characteristic values of said light-emitting elements measured in a

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characteristic measurement;

temporarily keeping said light-emitting elements after storing said characteristic

values; and

rearranging said light-emitting elements to make said characteristic values of adjacent

light-emitting elements substantially equal.

6.   (Original) A method of arranging light-emitting elements according to Claim 5,

wherein said adjacent light-emitting elements are arranged so that the characteristic value of

one light-emitting element is not larger than that of another light-emitting element.

7.   (Original) A method of arranging light-emitting elements according to Claim 5,

wherein a predetermined number of the light-emitting elements are rearranged to make said

characteristic values of adjacent light-emitting elements substantially equal, after said light-

emitting elements are measured and temporarily kept.

8.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging light-emitting elements according to

Claim 5, wherein said characteristic value comprises a light intensity of said light-emitting

elements.

9.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

said characteristic value comprises at least one of light intensity, forward voltage, wavelength

and chromaticity.

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10.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

said LEDs are arranged beginning with an LED having a smallest characteristic value of said

LEDs to an LED having a largest characteristic value of said LEDs.

11.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging light-emitting elements according to

Claim 5, wherein said light-emitting elements are arranged beginning with a light-emitting

element having a smallest characteristic value of said light-emitting elements to a light-

emitting element having a largest characteristic value of said light-emitting elements.

12.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, further

comprising:

       generating an arrangement sequence on a memory of a computer to make said

characteristic values of adjacent LEDs substantially equal,

       wherein said rearranging is conducted based on said arrangement sequence.

13.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging light-emitting elements according to

Claim 5, further comprising:

       generating an arrangement sequence on a memory of a computer to make said

characteristic values of adjacent light-emitting elements substantially equal,

       wherein said rearranging is conducted based on said arrangement sequence.

14.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

said temporarily storing comprises ranking each of said LEDs with a temporary number by

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said characteristic value.

15.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging light-emitting elements according to

Claim 5, wherein said temporarily storing comprises ranking said light-emitting elements

with a temporary number by said characteristic value.

16.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus for arranging a number of LEDs, comprising:

       a characteristic value measuring unit that performs a characteristic measurement on

the LEDs to obtain a characteristic value for the LEDs;

       an arrangement sequence calculation unit that generates an arrangement sequence of

the LEDs such that a difference between the characteristic value of adjacent LEDs is

minimized; and

       a rearrangement unit for rearranging the LEDs in accordance with said arrangement

sequence.

17.   (Currently Amended) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

said rearranging said LEDs comprises sorting said LEDs according to a predetermined

~~algorithm~~ algorithm.

18.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

said rearranging said LEDs comprises arranging said LEDs on a tape.

19.   (Previously Presented) A method of arranging LEDs according to Claim 1, wherein

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said rearranging said LEDs comprises arranging said LEDs on a palette.